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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Serial No. Pending

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Int'l Filing Date: 17 July 2002

Title: FLEXIBLE VERTEBRAL
LINKING DEVICE

Examiner: pending

Applicant: Fortin et al .

GA No.: pending

Atty docket no: PUS-H002-001

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.10. I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at the address below by US Express Mail to Addressee Service

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FIRST PRE-AMENDMENT

Via Express Mail to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
2011 South Clark Place
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby Room 1B03
Arlington, Virginia 22202
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

Together with the enclosed filing papers, Applicant requests that the following amendments be made to the claims *before calculating the fees due for such application*.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims 6-12 as follows:

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